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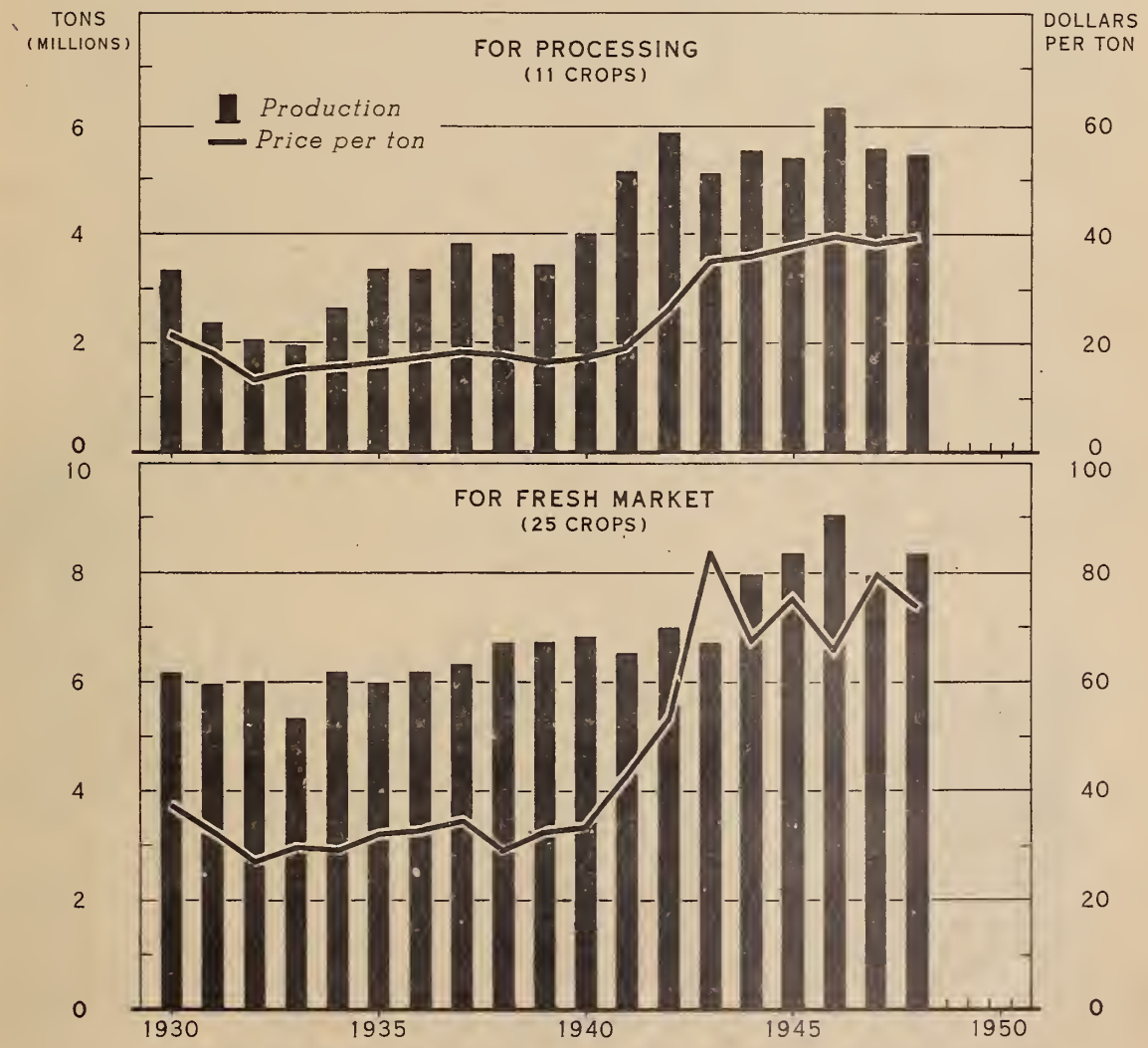
JAN. 6, P.M.

THE Vegetable SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

TVS-91 BAE DECEMBER 1948

COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS: TOTAL PRODUCTION AND SEASON AVERAGE PRICE PER TON RECEIVED BY FARMERS, BY CLASSES, UNITED STATES, 1930-48



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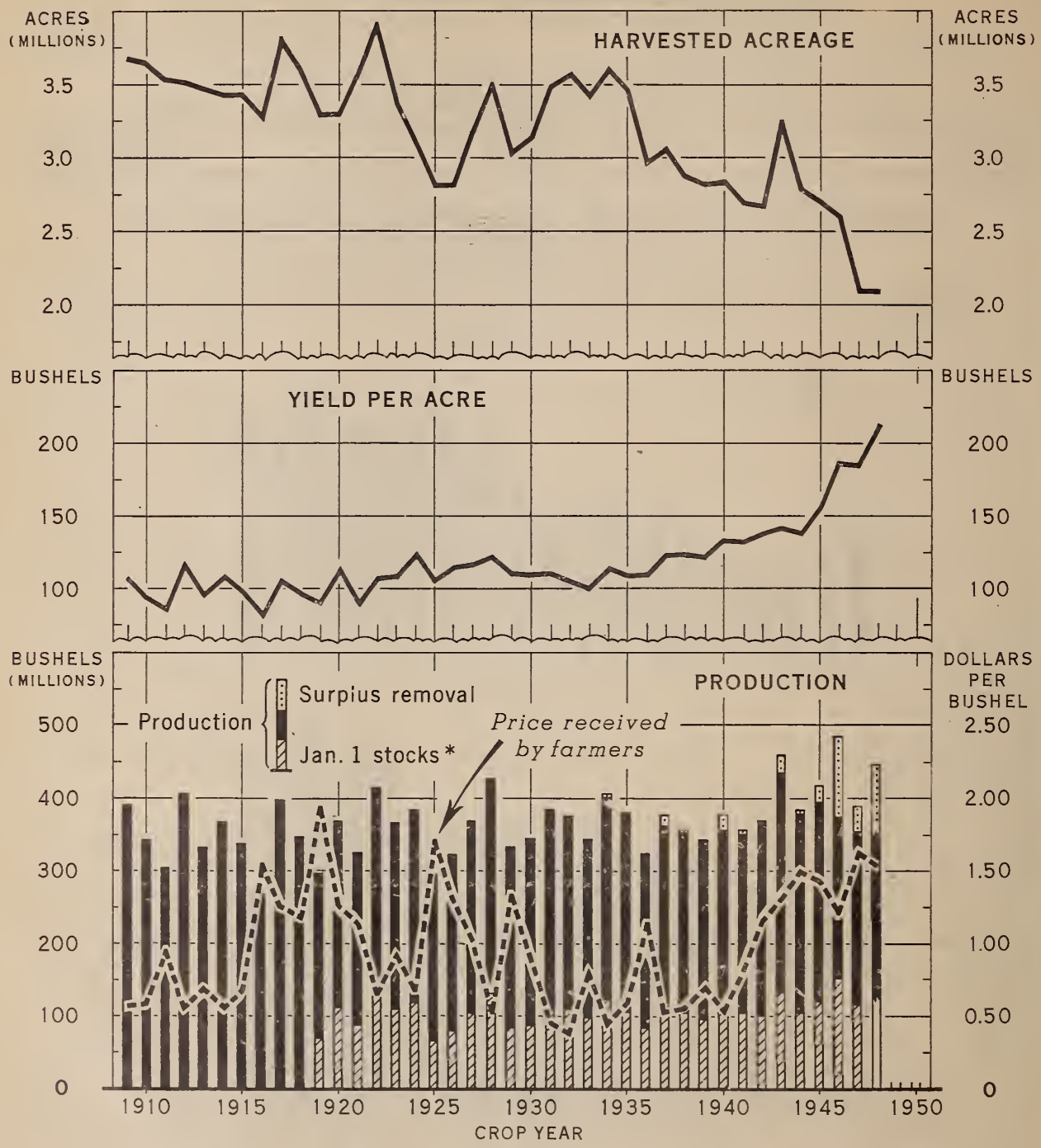
Since 1930, the reported commercial production of truck crops for processing has increased at a more rapid rate than that for the fresh market, but both series reached their peaks in 1946. Season average prices received by farmers for these crops rose slowly most of the time from 1932 until the war years, and then rose sharply.

Production of processing crops tends to respond immediately (within the year) to changes in the level of prices offered by processors. In contrast, production of fresh market truck crops precedes establishment of prices; hence the latter reflect changes in production.

POTATOES: ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, JAN. 1 STOCKS, SURPLUS REMOVAL, AND PRICE, UNITED STATES, 1909-48



*YEAR FOLLOWING PRODUCTION DATA FOR 1948 ARE PRELIMINARY

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The total acreage of potatoes harvested in the United States has moved irregularly downward for the last half century, and in 1948 was the smallest since 1880. On the other hand, the average yield per acre has had an upward trend since 1933, and a particularly sharp rise since 1944, reaching a record-high of 212 bushels in 1948. Total United States Production exceeded 380 million bushels only 8 times in the 34 years from 1909 through 1942, but each of the 6 crops that followed has gone over this mark.

Prices received by farmers for potatoes from year to year have usually moved opposite to the changes in size of the crop, but also have shared in the general rise of prices in time of war.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, December 30, 1948

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SUMMARY

Another year of generally large crops, but somewhat lower prices, has just been experienced by United States vegetable growers.

1948 production of dry edible beans has been exceeded only once, and that of potatoes and commercial truck crops for fresh market only twice. Prices received by farmers for 1948-crop dry beans are expected to average about one-third lower than for the 1947 crop; but prices received for fresh market truck crops, potatoes, and dry field peas only slightly lower; and those for sweetpotatoes and truck crops for processing slightly higher.

Aggregate production of 25 commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment in 1948 was third largest of record, with sweet corn production in the 3 States reported setting a new record-high, and near-records achieved in cauliflower, celery, eggplant, escarole, lettuce, and green peppers. Prices received by growers averaged a little higher in the first part of 1948 than a year earlier, but later dropped to levels below the preceding year. Higher average prices were received in 1948 for 12 of the 25 crops.

Total production of 11 truck crops for commercial processing in 1948 was 2 percent below 1947, and 13 percent lower than the 1946 record. The 1948 processing crops of sweet corn and lima beans were record large. Record-high prices were received by growers in 1948 for 7 of these 11 crops.

Preliminary estimates indicate that the commercial pack of canned vegetables in 1948 was somewhat smaller than the 1947 pack, but that of frozen vegetables was slightly larger. Stocks of canned and frozen vegetables generally are somewhat lower than a year earlier.

In spite of the smallest potato acreage in many years, a record high average yield of 212 bushels per acre resulted in the third largest crop of record and eliminated any hope that prices received by farmers for the 1948 late crop might rise appreciably above support levels. In spite of huge support purchases by the Government, it is estimated that farmers will receive a slightly lower average price for the 1948 crop than they did for the 1947 crop.

Announcement was made November 17, 1948, that the 1949 potato goal called for a reduction of about 200,000 acres under that planted in 1948, and placed the price-support level at 60 percent of parity, a drop of about one-third from the 90 percent applied to the 1948 crop.

The 1948 sweetpotato crop was the smallest in 24 years, yet support purchases had to be made early in the marketing season in a few areas.

The 1948 dry edible bean crop was almost as large as the record produced in 1943. Prices received by farmers for beans have tumbled about one-third from the 1947 level. Large price-support purchases have been required, and large quantities will not be moved in the domestic market at support prices. Commercial stocks will undoubtedly be built up by the end of the 1948 crop marketing season.

TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET

Total Production in 1948 Exceeded Only in 2 Other Years

With the help of generally higher per acre yields, the combined tonnage of 25 commercial truck crops grown for fresh market in 1948 was 5 percent larger than in 1947 and 16 percent larger than the 1937-46 average. The 1948 tonnage is the third largest of record and was only about 8 percent smaller than the record grown in 1946. The sweet corn crop in the 3 States reported was a record-high, and the crops of cauliflower, celery, eggplant, escarole, lettuce, and green peppers were near-records.

Total 1948 acreage was 2 percent smaller than that of 1947, but 2 percent larger than the 10-year average. The lower acreage, however, was more than offset by the generally larger yields per acre. Record-high yields were achieved with cauliflower, celery, and cucumbers. Yields of only 5 crops were lower than last year and only 4 were below average.

Prices Averaged Moderately Lower in 1948 Than in 1947

Prices received by farmers for commercial truck crops for fresh market dropped considerably during 1948. In the first half of 1948, prices averaged slightly higher than a year earlier. During the summer months, however, prices dropped about one-tenth below the levels of the summer of 1947, and in the fall averaged about one-fourth lower than a year earlier.

For the entire year, the prices of 13 of the 25 crops averaged lower than in 1947. On an aggregate tonnage and value basis, the average value per ton for all 25 crops was about 8 percent lower in 1948 than in 1947. However, the 1948 level has been exceeded only in 1943, 1945, and 1947.

Prospective 1949 Winter-Season Production

The tonnage of commercial truck crops that will be produced for shipment to fresh market this winter will be slightly smaller than last winter but considerably larger than average, based on December reports for 13 of the crops that will be available. Production of carrots, escarole, kale, green peas, and spinach is indicated to be considerably larger than last winter, and above average except for peas which are less than one-third of average. The winter crops of artichokes and beets are indicated to be slightly larger than a year earlier, but those of lima beans, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, lettuce, and shallots are expected to be slightly to moderately smaller.

In addition to these crops currently being harvested, cabbage, carrots, and onions will be available out of storage, and these storage supplies are believed to be larger than those that were available in the same months of 1948.

Prices to Average Near Last Winter's Level

Prices received by growers this winter probably will not average as high as last winter. Prices probably will be higher than last winter for fresh lima beans and celery, but moderately to considerably lower for carrots, escarole, kale, green peas, and spinach.

Production Guides Suggest Continued High Production in 1949

Production Guide statements have been sent to the States for their consideration. These statements are preliminary suggestions for desirable acreages of commercial truck crops for fresh market in the winter, spring, and summer quarters of 1949. Total acreages suggested for each quarter compared with those planted in 1948 are slightly smaller in the winter season, equal in the spring, and slightly larger in the summer season. With average yields the suggested acreages would result in aggregate

tonnage by quarters equal to that produced in 1948 in the winter quarter, one percent larger in the spring, and 3 percent smaller in the summer quarter. With these assumptions, production this winter would be 23 percent larger than the 1937-46 average for the winter quarter, 14 percent larger than average in the spring quarter, and 4 percent larger than average in the summer quarter.

Largest percentage changes over 1948 suggested for spring-season acreage, by crops, are the 20 percent increases suggested for beets and carrots. Biggest decrease suggested is the 50 percent cut in spring acreage of green peppers.

Preliminary guides for commercial acreage for the summer-season fresh market suggest a 7 percent increase in snap bean acreage, a 5 percent increase in lima beans, sweet corn, and cucumbers, a 4 percent increase in beets and watermelons, a 2 percent increase in tomatoes, and no change for cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, green peas, green peppers, and spinach. Acreage reductions of 4 to 6 percent are suggested for cantaloups, Honey Dew melons, celery, lettuce, and onions.

These preliminary guides will be reviewed early in 1949. At the same time, suggestions will be considered for fall fresh-market acreage and acreage for commercial processing.

TRUCK CROPS FOR PROCESSING

Production For Processing in 1948 Only Slightly Less Than in 1947

In spite of a 9 percent reduction in acreage harvested, the aggregate 1948 production of 11 truck crops for commercial processing (canning, freezing, pickling, and other processing exclusive of dehydration) is only 2 percent smaller than the large production in 1947. The 5,458,500 tons produced in 1948 may be compared to the 5,562,720 tons grown in 1947, the record of 6,304,100 tons grown in 1946, and the 1936-47 average of 4,820,250 tons. The 1948 crops of sweet corn and of lima beans were largest of record.

Total 1948 harvested acreage of truck crops for commercial processing was 9 percent smaller than that harvested in 1947, but was about equal to average. The record high acreage of 2.1 million was harvested in 1946. In most cases, high yields per acre offset the reductions in acreage. Average yields were record high for tomatoes, lima beans, and sweet corn, and above average for all of the 11 crops except asparagus, green peas, and spinach.

Record-High Prices For Most Processing Crops

Farmers received record-high prices per ton for 7 of the 11 crops reported. Record prices for processing were received for asparagus and tomatoes in 1946 and for cabbage and spinach in 1943. The aggregate value per ton for all 11 crops combined was $39.27 per ton, almost as high as the record of $39.58 per ton received in 1946. The total value of the 11 crops produced was estimated at 214 million dollars, slightly more than in 1947, and second only to the record of 249 million dollars in 1946.

CANNED VEGETABLES

1948-49 Canned Vegetable Pack Moderately Smaller Than The 1947-48 Pack 1/

Incomplete data indicate that the total 1948-49 commercial pack of canned vegetables will be somewhat smaller than the 1947-48 pack and below any other year's pack since 1940. Final pack figures are expected to show some increases over the 1947-48 pack of lima beans, snap beans, beets, carrots, sweet corn, tomato juice, sauerkraut (including bulk), and white potatoes. Major decreases from the 1947-48 quantities canned are expected in canned green peas, tomatoes, and tomato products other than tomato juice.

Stocks Generally Lower Than A Year Earlier

Canners' stocks of green peas on December 1, 1948 were substantially lower than a year earlier, but their stocks of canned corn were considerably larger. Stocks held by wholesale distributors on November 1, 1948 were smaller than a year earlier for snap beans, green peas, tomatoes, and tomato juice, but were considerably larger for canned corn.

With total supplies of canned vegetables lower in late 1948 than a year earlier, and with the expectation of a continued high rate of consumption of canned vegetables this winter, stocks may be somewhat lower at the beginning of the 1949-50 pack year than they were at the beginning of the 1948-49 season.

FROZEN VEGETABLES

Pack Up A Little From 1947 Pack

Tentative estimates of the quantity of vegetables frozen in 1948 indicate that the combined total may be slightly larger than the quantity frozen in 1947. Final figures are expected to show substantial increases in pack of frozen green beans, lima beans, spinach, asparagus, and a number of minor vegetables. On the other hand, substantial reductions in pack compared to 1947 are indicated for frozen cut corn and frozen green peas.

December 1 Cold-Storage Holdings Below A Year Earlier

Commercial storage stocks of frozen vegetables on December 1, 1948 totaled 306.1 million pounds, well below the 324 million pounds a year earlier, but about one-fifth larger than the 5-year 1943-47 average for that date. First-of-the-month holdings declined more rapidly in the first

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1/ Data are compiled in equivalent cases of 24 No. 2 cans by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from various sources and include asparagus, beans (green lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, mixed vegetables, peas, pumpkin and squash, spinach, other leafy greens, kraut (including bulk), pimientos, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, tomatoes, tomato pulp, tomato juice (including vegetable juice combinations), tomato sauce, tomato paste, catsup and chili sauce, and pickles (including bulk).

6 months of 1948 than in the same months of 1947, but in the latter half of 1948 built up again more rapidly than in 1947. December 1, 1948 stocks of frozen lima beans, snap beans, and broccoli were higher than a year earlier; stocks of other frozen vegetables were lower. More than 70 percent of the December 1 frozen stocks were composed of green peas, lima beans, sweet corn, and snap beans.

The record rate of consumption of frozen vegetables, established in 1948, is expected to continue well into 1949.

POTATOES

Potato Crop Near Record; Acreage Smallest Since 1880

A record-large average yield per acre for the United States potato crop in 1948 much more than offset the reduction in acreage. The 1948 potato crop of 445,850,000 bushels is third largest of record, exceeded only by the record-large crop of 484,174,000 bushels produced in 1946 and the 458,887,000-bushel crop of 1943. The remarkable thing is that this third largest crop was produced on the smallest acreage harvested since 1880, a period of 68 years.

The 2,099,000 acres harvested in 1948 is only slightly smaller than the 2,101,000 acres harvested in 1947, but is only about three-fourths of the 1937-46 average of 2,826,000 acres. The record-large average yield of 212 bushels per acre achieved in 1948 continues the very rapid rise in yields which has occurred in recent years, (see chart on inside cover). This new record tops by 26 bushels the previous record of 186 bushels per acre in 1946, and is 73 bushels or more than 50 percent above the 1937-46 average yield of 139 bushels per acre. Among the factors contributing to the rising yields of recent years are: the increasing proportion of the acreage located on commercial potato farms; the use of increased quantities of commercial fertilizer; use of DDT and other effective insect poisons; a large proportion of the crop grown on irrigated acreage; and a succession of years of relatively favorable weather.

The 1948 crop in the 29 late States, estimated at 344 million bushels, was considerably larger than the 1947 crop of 296 million bushels and the 1937-46 average of 304 million bushels, but was smaller than the 1943 and 1946 crops of 359 and 365 million bushels, respectively. In the 18 surplus late States, which provide the bulk of the potatoes stored and shipped through the winter and early spring months, the 1948 crop of 318 million bushels was considerably larger than either the 1947 crop or the 10-year average, but was 2 percent smaller than the 1943 crop and 5 percent smaller than the record 1946 crop.

The 1948 potato crop in the late surplus States was below the 10-year average in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Nevada because of acreage decreases which more than offset increases in yield. In the 11 non-surplus or "other" late potato States, 1948 production was below average in each State except Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Acreage in this group of States was only a little more than half the 10-year average.

The 36-million-bushel crop grown in 1948 in the 8 intermediate States was 7 percent larger than the 1947 crop and 11 percent larger than average. Increased yields in most of these 8 States more than offset below-average acreage.

In most of the 12 early potato States, the 1948 acreage and production were smaller than either the 1947 or the 10-year average. However, nearly half of all the potatoes grown in the 12 early States were grown in California. In that State, the 80,000 acres harvested in 1948 were two-thirds more than the 10-year average acreage, and the 1948 crop was more than double the 10-year average production. Total production for the 12 early States was 65 million bushels, well above the 1947 total of 59 million and the 10-year average of 55 million bushels.

Supplies Ample for Winter and Early Spring

There will be more than adequate supplies of potatoes to meet demand this winter and early next spring. Supplies are distributed well geographically also, in contrast to the situation in 1947 when the crop was below average in most of the western States. The carry-over of merchantable stocks January 1, 1949 is expected to be ample, and there are plenty of certified seed potatoes available. Consumption of potatoes is expected to continue through early 1949 at about the 1948 annual rate of 118 pounds per capita.

Large-Scale Purchase and Diversion Operations to Bolster Prices

The Government is committed by law to the support of prices received by farmers for potatoes at 90 percent of parity for the 1948 crop. Since the 446-million-bushel crop of 1948 was far larger than could be sold at free market prices approximating 90 percent of parity, the Government has had to buy or divert for price support very large quantities of this crop. From the time that price-support purchases of 1948 crop potatoes were started last May through December 22, 1948, nearly 82 million bushels had been handled under the support program, and support operations were continuing at an active rate on that date.

With current levels of employment, national income, population, and relative level of price support, it appears that the market can absorb only about 350 million bushels at something above support levels. Of course, how many bushels will be absorbed depends not only upon the size of the total crop but also upon how production of the crop is distributed geographically, and upon the rate at which farmers attempt to market the crop.

Prices Received by Farmers Below Support Levels Since June

It now appears likely that the prices received by farmers for 1948-crop potatoes will average somewhat below 90 percent of parity, and particularly so for potatoes produced in the late crop States. Average prices received by farmers on the fifteenth of each month have been below the 90 percent of parity July 1, 1948 level of $1.67 per bushel in each month of 1948 beginning last July. The regularly published (December 17) preliminary estimate of the season average price to farmers for the entire

1948 crop is $1.53 per bushel, or 9 cents per bushel less than the average received for the 1947 crop. By seasonal groups, the preliminary estimates place the 1948-crop season average price at 22 cents per bushel higher than for the 1947 crop in the 11 early potato States excluding California, and 3 cents per bushel higher than 1947-crop prices in the 8 intermediate States, but 13 cents lower than 1947-crop prices in the 29 late States including all of California.

Some Factors in The Potato Price Situation

In appraising current and season-average prices to farmers in relation to parity and to 1947-crop prices, certain facts seem outstanding. In the first place, it is obvious that, in an unsupported market, the 1948 crop would have brought farmers a lower average price than the 1947 crop simply because the 1948 crop was so much larger. Secondly, shipping-point price reports through the season indicate that substantial numbers of farmers were willing to accept less than the support prices in effect at the time. Another point is that the support-price schedule is designed to reflect the equivalent of 90 percent of parity over the season as a whole, with month-to-month differentials considered appropriate. Obviously, if all sales during the season were to be made at the support levels established, the season average received would depend in considerable measure upon the rate at which farmers sold potatoes from month to month. The schedule was intended to encourage "orderly" marketing. Finally, not all growers nor all potatoes are eligible for price support under the program. Acreages planted in some areas exceeded the acreage goals, and some potatoes sold do not meet the grade specifications established under the program.

Utilization of Surplus Potatoes

Few if any potatoes acquired under the price-support program for the 1948 crop will be dumped or completely abandoned. Principal outlets for surplus potatoes this season have been the manufacture of alchohol, livestock feed, and potato flour. Disposition of total purchase and diversion operations for the 1948 crop through December 22 was as follows: 48 percent to alchohol; 24 percent to livestock feed; 18 percent to potato flour; 3 percent to potato starch; 3 percent to direct distribution (school lunch, charitable institutions, etc.); 2 percent to dehydration for food; and 2 percent to all other outlets including export, manufacture of lactic acid, and minor quantities in storage awaiting final disposition.

Indirect price support as well as assistance with financing problems also is being given by the Government loan program to potato growers eligible under the price-support program. Participation in the loan program, however, is wholly voluntary and does not affect eligibility for price support. Loans were made at about 75 percent of the September bulk-at-farm support prices. Through December 15, farmers had placed about 27 million bushels of 1948-crop potatoes under Government loan. Some 14-1/2 million bushels of the 1947 crop were placed under Government loan. Quantities under loan, both for the 1947 and the 1948 crops, represent primarily the farmers' needs for financing at the time the loans were placed.

1949-Potato Goals and Price Support

On November 17, 1948 the Department announced a 1949 potato acreage goal of 1,938,300 acres and a 1949-crop support price level at 60 percent of parity. The goal is about 200,000 acres smaller than the acreage planted in 1948. The goal is aimed at the production of about 350 million bushels. To be eligible for price support on the 1949 crop, a grower must stay within the acreage allotment established for his individual farm, and, to the extent applicable and practicable, will market his potatoes under the provisions of marketing agreements that may be in effect.

As usual, a small part of the entire year's crop will be supplied by production in the commercial early areas producing for winter and early spring season shipment. 1949 production in the winter-season areas of Texas and Florida is estimated at 1,483,000 bushels, slightly less than the 1,542,000 bushels produced in 1948 and considerably less than the 1,649,000-bushel-average for 1938-47. Prospective acreage in the early spring marketing areas of Florida and Texas is estimated at 23,200 acres, compared with 26,900 acres in 1948 and 27,110 acres for the 1938-47 average. Production in the early spring area will be estimated in April.

SWEETPOTATOES

Crop Smallest in 24 Years

The 1948 crop of sweetpotatoes, estimated at 49,806,000 bushels, was the smallest crop since 1924, one-tenth less than the 1947 crop of 55,746,000 bushels and one-fourth less than the 1937-46 average of 64,866,000 bushels. The average yield per acre of 97 bushels, 8 bushels above the 10-year average, was not enough to overcome the reduction in acreage. Acreage harvested in 1948 was 13 percent smaller than in 1947 and 29 percent below average. Much of the decline in acreage and production apparently arises from the disappearance on many farms of the home-use sweetpotato patch which has accompanied rising farm income. Acreage in the depression year of 1932 was nearly twice as large as the acreage in 1948. Acreages were as large in 1948 as in 1947 only in Missouri, Iowa, and Indiana.

Support Purchases Required
Despite Small Crop

Although the total 1948 crop of sweetpotatoes was small, purchases were required to support prices to farmers in September, October, and November, 1948. In these months, farmers attempted to move larger quantities than the market would take at support prices. Price-support purchases of 1948-crop sweetpotatoes through November 15 (date of last purchase) totaled 153,117 bushels. However, this quantity was considerably smaller than the 594,645 bushels bought for price support out of the 1947 crop. In both years, all of the purchases were made in those areas of Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina where farmers customarily dispose of their crop immediately after harvest and where the Golden variety, for which there is a limited demand, predominates.

More-Than-Seasonal
Price Rise Expected

Carlot rail and boat shipments of sweetpotatoes this season through December 18 totaled only 4,665 cars (including Government purchases), as compared with 6,066 cars for the same period a year earlier. However, it is believed that because of the smaller crop, and the greater motor-truck movement, considerably fewer cars remain available for shipment for the balance of this season than was true a year ago.

It has been estimated that farmers will receive an average of $2.19 per bushel for the entire 1948 crop, only 2 cents per bushel above that received for the 1947 crop. Prices received for the 1948 crop by States are as high as or higher than those for the 1947 crop in Maryland, Virginia, both of the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Kansas, Texas, and California, but are lower on the 1948 crop in all other States.

1949 Sweetpotato Goal

As announced by the Department on November 30, 1948, the 1949 goal suggests 607,000 acres of sweetpotatoes. Such an acreage would be 18 percent larger than that harvested in 1948 and, with yields equal to the 1942-46 average, would result in a crop of almost 57 million bushels, 14 percent more than the 1948 crop. While no specific announcement has been made concerning price support on the 1949 crop of sweetpotates, the Agricultural Act of 1948 provides for support of sweetpotato prices in 1949 at 60 to 90 percent of parity.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Near-Record Crop

The 1948 crop of dry edible beans, estimated at 20.8 million bags (100 pounds each, uncleaned) has been exceeded only by the record-large 1943 crop of 21 million bags. This is a big increase from the 1947 crop of 17.2 million bags and the 1937-46 average of 16.7 million bags. On a cleaned basis, the figures are: 1948 crop, 19.4 million bags; 1947 crop, 15.8 million; and 1937-46 average, 15.6 million bags. The large 1948 crop is the result of increased acreage and record-high average yield per acre (1,087 pounds). The clean-out percentage for the 1948 crop is lower than usual because of good growing, maturing, and harvesting weather.

Production of Pea and Medium White beans in 1948 was largest of any commercial class, exceeding the next largest class - Great Northern - by about 8 percent. In 1947, production of Great Northerns was in first place. Pea and Medium White beans are grown almost entirely in Michigan and New York, while Great Northerns are grown mostly in Nebraska, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana. The 1948 crops of Pea and Medium White beans were 46 percent larger and of Great Northerns, 15 percent larger, than the 1947 crops.

Other leading types are Pinto, produced mostly in Colorado and other Southwestern and Mountain States; Red Kidney, especially important in New York State; and Standard Lima, Baby Lima, and Blackeyes produced almost entirely in California. Pinto beans again lead all other colored varieties.

The 1948 Pinto crop was slightly smaller than the 1947 crop, but that of Red Kidney beans was 59 percent larger. The 1948 crop of Standard Limas was up a little more than one-third over 1947 but that of Baby Limas was down 7 percent. Production of Blackeyes in 1948 was up 70 percent from 1947.

Supplies Exceed Demand At Support Prices

The Government has made extensive price-support purchases of the 1948 bean crop. Prices received by growers sagged sharply during the summer months as the size of the new crop became more evident. The United States average price received by farmers for dry beans on July 15 was $11.70 per hundred pounds. On December 15, the price was down to $7.77.

It is estimated (preliminary) that growers will receive an average price for the season per 100 pounds of $8.06 for the 1948 crop. The season average for the 1947 crop was $11.60.

Ample Supplies Available For Export

Forecasts of probable disposition of the 1948 bean crop indicate very substantial quantities available for export and the probability that domestic commercial stocks will be built up toward the higher levels of prewar years. Under these circumstances, there seems little likelihood that prices received by farmers for the rest of the 1948-crop marketing season will rise much above support levels and carrying costs.

DRY FIELD PEAS

The 1948 crop of dry field peas, estimated at not quite 3.6 million bags (100 pounds each, uncleaned), is only about one-third as large as the record crop of 11 million bags in 1943. Before the war, production usually ranged from 2 to 3 million bags. During the war it was stepped up to a level of 6 to 11 million bags per year.

On a cleaned basis, the 1948 crop is equivalent to 3,265,000 bags, a considerable drop from the 5,970,000 bags (cleaned basis) produced in 1947. While the average yield per acre in 1948 was down slightly from 1947 or average, the principal cause of the smaller crop in 1948 was the 44 percent reduction in acreage below 1947.

Export demand for peas has virtually disappeared, so that, even with the much smaller crop this year, the Department has made sizeable purchases for price support.

The preliminary estimate of the 1948-crop season average price to growers for dry field peas is $5.15 per 100 pounds, cleaned basis, which is slightly below the $5.37 received for the 1947 crop.

The 1949 goal for dry peas, recommended to the States by the Department on July 23, 1948, is concerned primarily with smooth peas. It suggests 225,000 acres of dry edible smooth peas, and assumes a normal planting of about 125,000 acres of wrinkled peas. With average yields the 225,000 acres would produce about 2.5 million bags of smooth peas.

Table 1.- Truck crops for fresh market: Commercial acreage, production in 1,000 units, and season average price per unit received by farmers, average 1937-46, annual 1947 and 1948

Crop	Acreage			Production			Price per unit		
	Average 1937-46	1947	1948	Avg. 1937-1946	1947	1948	Avg. 1937-1946	1947	1948
	Acres	Acres	Acres	1,000 Boxes	1,000 Boxes	1,000 Boxes	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Artichokes	8,900	7,250	7,450	818	761	820	2.44	3.00	3.50
				Crates	Crates	Crates			
Asparagus 1/	59,280	47,190	42,760	4,700	4,350	3,721	2.55	3.75	3.55
				Bu.	Bu.	Bu.			
Beans, lima	20,280	16,050	14,450	1,368	1,421	1,280	2.18	2.41	2.79
Beans, snap	175,830	182,080	173,950	16,412	17,614	17,534	1.70	2.20	2.48
Beets	11,850	9,970	10,450	2,177	1,942	1,972	.65	.82	1.06
				Tons	Tons	Tons			
Cabbage 1/	169,810	162,060	179,500	1,180	1,142	1,334	23.09	42.67	30.27
				Crates	Crates	Crates			
Cantaloups	105,360	129,900	122,360	10,057	12,541	12,068	2.23	3.24	2.99
				Bu.	Bu.	Bu.			
Carrots 1/	65,530	70,350	75,400	21,703	23,029	26,128	.99	1.70	1.88
				Crates	Crates	Crates			
Cauliflower 1/	31,990	39,540	38,300	9,511	11,499	12,375	1.08	1.51	1.40
Celery 1/	41,390	41,310	40,330	17,914	20,606	22,831	1.92	2.75	1.88
				Ears	Ears	Ears			
Corn, sweet 2/	54,630	67,900	61,200	271370	325520	329520	18.78	22.69	32.07
				Bu.	Bu.	Bu.			
Cucumbers	44,740	59,900	55,050	4,920	6,470	6,626	1.66	2.14	2.39
Eggplant	4,900	5,550	6,680	1,147	1,093	1,645	1.18	1.90	1.49
Escarole	1,560	2,700	3,100	889	958	1,426	.73	1.35	1.10
				Crates	Crates	Crates			
Honey Balls	2,510	640	1,100	273	70	66	2.95	5.10	3.95
Honey Dews	13,400	14,970	11,700	3,205	3,487	3,129	1.33	2.02	1.82
				Bu.	Bu.	Bu.			
Kale	1,680	1,800	1,300	649	625	525	.50	.60	1.05
				Crates	Crates	Crates			
Lettuce	160,600	190,300	201,500	24,818	34,170	33,850	2.16	3.19	3.14
				Sacks	Sacks	Sacks			
Onions 1/3/	134,670	119,030	128,730	36,128	35,799	40,889	.99	2.05	1.45
				Bu.	Bu.	Bu.			
Peas, green	82,500	44,400	37,550	7,225	4,389	3,640	1.64	2.16	2.18
Peppers, green	24,472	31,150	33,200	5,532	6,038	7,470	1.32	2.39	1.75
Shallots	5,040	4,700	4,800	572	443	509	1.21	1.99	1.64
Spinach 1/	68,950	61,980	59,460	14,584	12,241	12,644	.62	.91	.92
Tomatoes	231,620	242,020	236,030	27,368	29,386	29,414	2.07	3.13	3.30
				Melons	Melons	Melons			
Watermelons 4/	245,040	290,020	255,490	67,606	81,063	73,142	242	319	388
				Tons	Tons	Tons			
Total	1,766,520	1,842,760	1,801,840	7,217	7,965	8,338	51.63	79.79	73.46

1/ Includes some quantities used for processing in certain States. For asparagus this is true in 1937 and 1938. 2/ New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania only; price based on 1,000 ears. 3/ Production and price based on sacks of 50 pounds. 4/ Price based on 1,000 melons.

Table 2.- Truck crops and potatoes for marketing in early 1949: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1938-47, annual 1948, indicated 1949

Crop and seasonal group	Acreage: Average 1938-47	Acreage: 1948	Acreage: Ind. 1949	Unit	Yield per acre: Avg. 1938-1947	Yield per acre: 1948	Yield per acre: Ind. 1949	Production: Avg. 1938-1947	Production: 1948	Production: Ind. 1949
	Acres	Acres	Acres					1,000	1,000	1,000
WINTER:										
Artichokes	8,620	7,450	7,900	Box	96	110	105	814	820	830
Beans, lima ...	2,170	1,500	1,300	Bu.	63	85	80	129	128	104
Beets	7,400	7,100	7,200	Bu.	142	150	150	1,058	1,065	1,080
Cabbage 1/	57,800	68,600	61,800	Ton	6.1	6.7	6.5	358.5	462.7	399.6
Carrots	27,750	32,050	40,550	Bu.	242	263	250	6,774	8,439	10,155
Cauliflower ...	9,890	12,650	12,100	Crt.	283	297	308	2,759	3,761	3,730
Celery	8,220	10,470	8,920	Crt.	558	606	599	4,539	6,340	5,344
Escarole	1,740	3,100	3,400	Bu.	558	460	500	925	1,426	1,700
Kale	1,730	1,400	2,000	Bu.	386	375	450	666	525	900
Lettuce	40,170	58,950	61,300	Crt.	164	167	151	6,624	9,871	9,238
Peas, green ...	13,460	6,300	4,450	Bu.	72	36	70	997	225	311
Peppers, green	2,980	2,450	2,400	Bu.	302	400	---	930	980	---
Shallots	2,690	2,900	2,900	Bu.	110	110	105	300	319	304
Spinach	42,500	37,300	45,450	Bu.	159	161	157	6,766	6,000	7,122
*Total to date	224,140	249,770	259,270	Ton	4.9	5.7	5.3	1,102	1,425	1,368
SPRING:										
Asparagus 1/ ..	128,430	123,450	124,820	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Cabbage:										
Early spring 1/	20,350	20,100	19,700	Ton	4.9	---	---	99.1	---	---
Onions:										
Early spring ..	44,470	44,600	49,300	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total to date	193,250	188,150	193,820	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
POTATOES:										
Winter	12,400	8,100	9,000	Bu.	132	190	164	1,649	1,542	1,483
Early spring ..	27,110	26,900	23,200	Bu.	120	---	---	3,234	---	---
Total to date	39,510	35,000	32,200	Bu.	124	---	---	4,883	---	---

1/ Includes acreage and production for processing.
*/ Excluding acreage and production of green peppers.

Table 3.- Truck crops, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes: Carlot (rail and boat) shipments from originating points in the United States, indicated periods in 1947 and 1948 1/

Commodity	1947 Month Sept.	1947 Month Oct.	1947 Month Nov.	1947 Week ended Dec. 20	1948 Month Sept.	1948 Month Oct.	1948 Month Nov.	1948 Week ended Dec. 18
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Beans, snap and lima	21	233	339	141	42	328	587	193
Beets	31	20	41	12	25	19	17	15
Broccoli	33	127	127	36	38	141	180	49
Cabbage	1,062	1,852	1,726	424	827	1,107	946	360
Cantaloups	1,718	70	---	---	2,761	77	---	---
Carrots	1,011	1,752	1,218	420	1,456	1,990	1,675	285
Casaba melons	13	16	4	---	11	30	24	---
Cauliflower	526	422	668	210	477	435	880	190
Celery	1,307	1,767	2,931	502	1,013	1,446	2,543	539
Corn, green	229	121	---	---	142	69	22	---
Cucumbers	162	102	234	56	88	176	318	34
Eggplant	1	2	5	---	---	5	8	---
Escarole	---	---	52	49	---	---	57	36
Greens (except spinach)	25	90	84	54	7	29	84	31
Honey Ball melons	13	---	---	---	6	---	---	---
Honey Dew melons	1,073	454	8	---	1,262	303	11	---
Lettuce and romaine	6,417	6,297	6,082	1,279	5,547	5,816	5,991	1,623
Mixed melons	207	135	17	---	291	205	29	---
Mixed vegetables	2,570	2,558	2,471	945	2,215	2,316	2,284	722
Onions	4,707	3,779	3,286	486	3,247	3,399	2,359	494
Peas, green	258	107	117	3	186	154	136	14
Peppers, green	76	142	312	57	19	169	271	14
Persian melons	142	60	---	---	198	147	---	---
Spinach	96	21	108	132	65	23	27	93
Tomatoes	2,919	2,737	1,647	210	4,196	3,438	1,929	251
Turnips and rutabagas	38	72	72	13	24	53	61	8
Watermelons	169	4	---	---	164	---	---	---
Total of above	24,824	22,940	21,549	5,029	24,307	21,875	20,439	4,951
Potatoes (new crop)	---	---	27	35	---	---	7	61
Potatoes (old crop):								
Early States	92	4	5	---	30	12	3	---
Intermediate States	5,505	1,937	93	17	4,052	1,237	150	13
Late surplus States	19,899	23,352	19,933	3,616	26,336	30,355	22,906	6,165
Late other States	662	504	291	76	683	871	475	135
Total potatoes	26,158	25,797	20,349	3,744	31,101	32,475	23,541	6,374
Sweetpotatoes	1,332	1,729	1,464	232	929	930	1,037	200
Grand total	52,314	50,466	43,362	9,005	56,337	55,280	45,017	11,525

1/ Does not include shipments by motor-truck. Includes Government purchases. Compiled from records of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 4.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), indicated periods, 1947 and 1948

Market and commodity	Unit	1947 Nov.	1947 Week ended Dec. 20	1948 Month Sept.	1948 Month Oct.	1948 Month Nov.	1948 Week ended Dec. 18
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York							
Beans, lima, Eastern	Bushel	---	---	2.92	3.09	---	---
Beans, lima, California	Bushel	5.80	---	---	---	5.40	---
Beans, snap, green, Southern	Bushel	4.91	2.42	---	2.23	4.12	2.65
Beans, snap, green, Eastern	Bushel	---	---	2.52	2.07	---	---
Beets, bunched, Texas	1/2 L.A. crt.	1/2.35	2.00	---	---	---	3.12
Beets, bunched, L. I. & N.J.	1-3/5 bu. box	.89	---	.84	.66	.51	---
Beets, topped, Eastern	Bushel	.94	.88	1.28	.97	.91	1.00
Broccoli, bunched, Western	Pony crate	6.69	7.10	5.80	7.32	5.88	6.80
Broccoli, bunched, Eastern	E. crt. 12's	2.14	---	---	2.59	1.74	1.62
Cabbage, domestic, N. C.	1-3/4 bu. box	---	---	---	---	1.14	1.55
Cabbage, domestic, N. J.	50-lb. sack	---	---	1.14	1.13	---	---
Cabbage, Danish, New York	50-lb. sack	2.14	2.15	---	.97	.80	.80
Cantaloups, California	Jumbo crate	---	---	4.35	6.41	---	---
Carrots, bunched, Western	L. A. crate	9.44	11.40	5.90	5.76	5.36	5.15
Carrots, topped, Eastern	Bushel	2.37	3.12	.90	.92	.87	.79
Cauliflower, Western	Pony crate	2.28	2.72	---	---	---	1.56
Cauliflower, New York	Catskill Section crt.	---	---	2.70	2.24	---	---
Cauliflower, Long Island	L. I. crate	2.74	---	2.11	2.53	1.93	2.00
Celery, G. Heart, Florida	16-inch crate	---	4.15	---	---	6.25	4.84
Celery, G. Heart, Calif.	1/2 crate	4.88	5.00	---	---	5.61	4.92
Celery, G. Heart, New York	16-inch crate	3.52	---	2.88	3.88	---	---
Celery, Pascal, California	Nailed crate	3.68	3.12	4.59	3.77	4.07	3.50
Cucumbers, Southern	Bushel	5.60	5.20	---	4.48	3.20	4.05
Cucumbers, Eastern	Bushel	---	---	3.22	4.06	---	---
Eggplant, Florida	Bushel	6.12	6.05	---	2.53	3.97	4.88
Eggplant, Eastern	Bushel	---	---	.80	1.18	---	---
Escarole, Florida	Bushel	---	1.68	---	---	1.54	1.52
Escarole, Eastern	1-3/5 bu. box	1.08	---	.91	.79	.60	---
Honey Dew melons, Calif.	Jumbo and Standard crt.	---	---	2.91	2.91	3.95	---
Kale, Eastern	1-3/5 bu. box	.76	.65	.55	.59	.58	.60
Lettuce, Iceberg, Western	L. A. crate	6.69	6.90	5.76	6.01	5.63	6.48
Lettuce, Big Boston, Eastern	E. crate	1.23	2/2.32	1.23	.82	1.26	2/1.95
Onions, sweet, Spanish 3/	50-lb. sack	3.72	4.36	2.98	2.52	2.36	2.24
Onions, yellow, New York	50-lb. sack	3.12	3.44	1.26	1.53	1.70	1.56
Peas, green, Western	Bushel	5.75	5.05	4.20	3.98	4.30	5.78
Peppers, green, Florida	Bushel	3.55	5.72	---	---	3.60	5.31
Peppers, green, Texas	Bushel	3.78	5.56	---	---	3.49	5.50
Peppers, green, Virginia	Bushel	3.31	---	1.18	1.53	1.98	---
Peppers, green, New Jersey	Bushel	---	---	1.29	1.05	---	---
Spinach, Savoy type, Va.	Bushel	1.01	1.75	---	---	---	1.38
Spinach, Savoy, Eastern	Bushel	.86	---	.87	.81	.96	1.11
Squash, acorn, New Jersey	Bushel	2.42	---	1.18	1.28	1.08	1.28

- Continued

Table 4.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), indicated periods, 1947 and 1948 - Continued

Market and commodity	Unit	1947 Nov.	1947 Week ended Dec. 20	1948 Month Sept.	1948 Month Oct.	1948 Month Nov.	1948 Week ended Dec. 18
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York							
Squash, Italian, Florida	3/4 bu.	3.48	---	---	2.51	2.42	---
Squash, Italian, N. Jersey	1/2 bu.	---	---	1.57	2.09	---	---
Squash, Yellow, Florida	3/4 bu.	3.60	2.88	---	1.83	1.97	---
Squash, Yellow, N. Jersey	Bushel	---	---	1.09	---	---	---
Squash, Hubbard, N. Jersey	1-1/2 bu. hamper	---	---	---	1.89	1.85	1.81
Tomatoes, Florida	Lug box, 6X6	4/6.75	5.50	---	---	6.76	4.80
Tomatoes, California	Lug box, 6X6	5/4.32	---	---	3.15	5.18	---
Tomatoes, New York	Lug box, 6X6	---	---	2.69	---	---	---
Tomatoes, Eastern	12-qt. climax basket	---	---	1.22	1.12	---	---
Chicago							
Beans, snap, green, Southern	Bushel	5.36	2.72	3.71	2.96	4.36	2.52
Beans, snap, green, Midwestern	Bushel	---	---	3.29	2.22	---	---
Beets, bunched, Texas	1/2 L.A. crt.	2.86	1.53	---	---	2.82	2.21
Beets, bunched, Missouri	L. A. crate	1.70	---	---	1.80	2.31	---
Broccoli, Western	Pony crate	6.35	6.10	6.24	6.36	5.59	6.80
Cabbage, domestic, Arizona	L. A. crate	5.47	4.49	---	---	3.87	3.62
Cabbage, domestic, Illinois	Miscellaneous crate	2.13	---	1.40	1.11	1.13	1.12
Cabbage, Danish, Wisconsin	50-lb. sack	1.90	2.04	---	.88	.80	.85
Cantaloups, California	Jumbo crate	3.21	---	4.23	5.30	---	---
Carrots, bunched, Western	L. A. crate	9.04	10.12	4.76	4.68	4.25	4.42
Carrots, topped, Illinois	50-lb. sack	2.26	3.00	1.07	.84	.78	.69
Cauliflower, Western	Pony crate	2.53	2.22	2.06	2.54	2.36	2.18
Cauliflower, Michigan	Crate 12's and larger	2.37	---	1.62	2.27	1.90	---
Celery, G. Heart, Calif.	1/2 crate	4.81	5.05	---	---	5.28	4.90
Celery, G. Heart, Michigan	1/2 crate	2.67	---	1.30	1.81	2.25	---
Celery, Pascal type, Calif.	16-inch crate	3.41	3.12	3.92	3.57	3.59	3.32
Cucumbers, Southern	Bushel	6.39	4.75	---	4.93	3.33	4.18
Cucumbers, Midwestern	Bushel	---	---	3.56	---	---	---
Eggplant, Texas	Bushel	4.48	4.17	---	---	3.10	2.94
Eggplant, Midwestern	Bushel	---	---	.95	1.09	---	---
Escarole, Florida	Bushel	---	2.44	---	---	1.69	1.82
Escarole, Illinois	Bushel	---	---	.91	.76	---	---
Escarole, Indiana	Bushel	6/1.78	---	1.19	.90	6/1.11	---
Honey Dew melons, Calif.	Jumbo and Standard crt.	3.21	---	2.70	2.62	3.05	---
Lettuce, Iceberg, Western	L. A. crate	5.87	6.25	4.73	4.36	4.91	5.75
Lettuce, leaf, Illinois	Bushel	---	---	.92	.73	---	---
Lettuce, leaf, Midwestern	10-lb. carton	1.22	1.16	---	---	1.11	1.24

- Continued

Table 4.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted) indicated periods, 1947 and 1948 - Continued

Market and commodity	Unit	1947 Nov.	1947 Week ended Dec. 20	1948 Month Sept.	1948 Month Oct.	1948 Month Nov.	1948 Week ended Dec. 18
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Chicago							
Onions, sweet, Spanish, Western 3/	50-lb. sack	3.36	4.08	2.56	2.17	1.96	1.96
Onions, yellow, Midwestern	50-lb. sack	3.14	3.45	1.25	1.40	1.45	1.38
Peas, Western	Bushel	4.98	5.00	3.88	3.87	3.94	4.52
Peppers, green, Texas	Bushel	3.87	5.28	---	---	3.46	5.75
Peppers, green, California	1-1/2 bu. crt.	5.98	---	---	3.97	4.26	---
Peppers, green, Midwestern	Bushel	---	---	1.82	1.64	---	---
Spinach, flat type, Midwestern	Bushel	1.32	7/1.83	1.21	1.46	1.52	1.79
Squash, acorn, Illinois	Bushel	2.14	---	.66	.58	.53	.62
Squash, Hubbard, Illinois	L. A. crate	2.09	---	1.16	1.12	1.04	---
Squash, Marblehead, Illinois	L. A. crate	1.87	3.12	1.17	1.10	1.03	1.25
Squash, Yellow, Florida	3/4 bu.	---	---	---	1.81	2.02	---
Tomatoes, Texas	Lug box 6X6	6.39	1/7.19	---	---	1/4.75	6/4.81
Tomatoes, California	Lug box 6X6	1/6.67	---	1/2.94	3.12	4.06	---
Tomatoes, Midwestern	12-qt. climax basket	---	---	1.06	---	---	---
Tomatoes, repacked	10-lb. carton	2.51	2.58	---	1.44	1.79	1.72
Tomatoes, hothouse, Midwestern	8-lb. basket	2.88	3.02	---	1.53	2.18	2.26

1/ Less than 10 quotations. 2/ Florida. 3/ 3-inch minimum. 4/ Texas.
5/ Auction sales. 6/ Missouri. 7/ Savoy type, Virginia.
Compiled from records of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 5.- Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1937-46, annual 1947 and 1948

Group of States	Harvested acreage Average 1937-46	Harvested acreage 1947	Harvested acreage 1948	Yield per acre Avg. 1937-46	Yield per acre 1947	Yield per acre 1948	Production Average 1937-46	Production 1947	Production 1948
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Early:									
12 States	497	398	394	111	149	166	55,181	59,418	65,414
Intermediate:									
8 States	267	210	211	123	161	172	32,682	33,801	36,234
Late Surplus:									
18 States	1,760	1,323	1,332	154	204	239	269,982	270,594	317,749
Late, Other:									
11 States	302	170	163	115	149	163	34,298	25,235	26,453
Late, Total									
29 States	2,061	1,493	1,494	149	198	230	304,280	295,829	344,202
37 Late and Intermediate	2,328	1,703	1,705	146	194	223	336,962	329,630	380,436
TOTAL U. S.	2,826	2,101	2,099	139	185	212	392,143	389,048	445,850

Table 6.- Truck crops for commercial processing: Acreage, production, and season average price per ton received by farmers, average 1937-46, annual 1947 and 1948

Crop	Harvested acreage			Production			Price per ton		
	Average 1937-46	1947	1948	Average 1937-46	1947	1948	Avg. 1937-1946	1947	1948
	Acres	Acres	Acres	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus	67,900	74,610	80,870	81.8	100.1	91.8	118.10	134.70	153.86
Beans, lima 1/	56,540	81,570	86,010	31.9	56.5	69.5	89.58	142.49	159.93
Beans, snap	104,480	102,380	94,500	173.8	169.3	178.9	71.92	104.03	120.84
Beets	15,000	10,270	12,990	115.1	74.6	97.4	15.45	19.73	23.08
Cabbage for kraut	19,920	9,810	19,270	177.6	72.3	201.9	10.88	17.22	15.10
Corn, sweet 2/	426,410	492,590	474,420	1,025.9	1,091.6	1,326.2	13.86	20.82	23.57
Cucumbers for pickles	97,820	127,290	122,420	174.9	245.6	231.4	35.00	56.25	68.75
Peas, green 1/	385,190	428,140	372,830	366.2	434.8	347.0	64.60	87.19	90.11
Piminetos 3/	13,830	16,670	14,300	17.3	19.6	17.9	42.35	60.00	70.00
Spinach	31,460	24,060	21,550	73.0	55.5	48.9	32.50	39.14	46.05
Tomatoes	492,700	511,370	410,500	2,582.7	3,242.8	2,847.6	19.57	28.63	28.19
Total	1,711,250	1,878,760	1,709,660	4,820.2	5,562.7	5,458.5	27.84	38.20	39.27

1/ Production and price on a "shelled" basis. 2/ Corn in the husk. 3/ 1947 and earlier years, California and Georgia; 1948, Georgia only.

Table 7.- Frozen vegetables: Cold-storage holdings, December 1, 1948, with comparisons

Commodity	Dec. 1 average 1943-47	1947			1948		
		Oct. 1	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Oct. 1	Nov. 1	Dec. 1 1/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Asparagus	10,590	16,972	14,633	13,050	12,221	10,790	9,710
Beans, lima	21,684	38,042	42,815	40,185	55,766	60,272	57,027
Beans, snap	20,225	29,214	25,511	22,377	30,108	28,137	26,503
Broccoli	6,303	8,933	8,226	7,581	6,350	6,989	8,406
Cauliflower	---	6,083	7,445	6,309	3,825	5,941	5,929
Corn, sweet	27,620	38,421	39,916	36,529	35,869	33,494	30,410
Peas, green	81,822	155,051	138,601	126,717	132,379	118,367	107,950
Spinach	16,852	18,207	17,856	16,604	9,212	9,964	11,645
Brussels sprouts	---	4,376	4,880	5,055	2,127	2,090	3,786
Pumpkin and squash	---	7,278	10,798	9,597	3,573	7,695	6,566
Other vegetables	65,333	30,662	36,785	39,987	20,304	28,229	38,124
Total	250,429	353,239	347,466	323,991	311,734	311,968	306,056

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Production and Marketing Administration. Reports on cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, pumpkin and squash were not segregated prior to July 1, 1944.

Table 8.-Potatoes: Unweighted average price per 100 pounds (except where otherwise noted) for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1, size A, when quoted), at shipping points and terminal markets, indicated periods, 1947 and 1948

Location and variety	1947		1948			
		Week	Month			Week
	Nov.	ended Dec. 20	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	ended Dec. 18
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
F. O. B. SHIPPING POINTS:						
Stevens Point, Wisconsin, Round Whites	2.43	---	2.24	2.07	2.10	2.29
San Luis Valley, Colorado, Red McClure 1/	3.33	3.19	---	---	2.83	2.92
Idaho Falls, Russet Burbank 1/	3.67	3.74	2.34	2.37	2.59	2.61
Aroostook County points, Maine, various varieties	2.78	2.85	---	2.70	2.85	3.05
West Michigan points:						
Chippewa	2.86	---	---	2.04	2.21	2.66
Russet Rural	2.65	---	---	---	1.95	2.32
Rochester, New York, various varieties	2.93	3.00	2.47	2.27	2.36	2.68
Red River Valley, North Dakota, various varieties 3/	2.38	2.43	---	---	---	---
Yakima-Ellensburg district, Washington, Russet Burbank 1/	3.74	---	2.50	2.58	2.77	2.98
Western Nebraska, Bliss Triumph 1/	3.53	3.60	---	---	2.96	2.96
Terminal Markets:						
New York						
Cobbler, Long Island	---	---	2.73	2.65	2.75	---
Chippewa, Long Island	2/3.10	---	2.88	2.91	3.00	---
Green Mountain, Long Island	3.30	3.41	2.87	2.94	3.26	3.48
Green Mountain, Maine	3.27	3.34	---	---	3.02	3.54
Katahdin, Long Island	3.31	3.36	2.86	2.94	3.01	3.50
Katahdin, Maine	3.30	3.34	---	---	3.18	3.54
Russet Burbank, Idaho 1/	5.34	5.49	4.73	4.42	4.31	4.50
Long White, Washington 1/	---	---	4.44	---	---	---
Chicago						
Bliss Triumph, Minnesota and North Dakota 3/	---	3.08	2.58	2.94	3.15	3.19
Bliss Triumph, Nebraska 1/	2/4.04	---	---	---	---	---
Chippewa, Wisconsin	---	---	2.48	2.37	---	---
Cobbler, Minnesota and North Dakota 4/	---	6/2.90	---	2.35	2.75	---
Long White, Washington 1/	---	---	3.69	---	---	---
Red McClure, Colorado 1/	4.22	3.89	3.55	3.57	3.77	3.84
Russet Burbank, Idaho 1/	4.80	4.66	4.00	3.49	3.74	3.69

1/ Washed. 2/ Less than 10 quotations. 3/ Washed and unwashed. 4/ U. S. No. 1 and 80-90 percent U. S. No. 1, washed and unwashed. 5/ Wisconsin. 6/ One quotation.

Compiled from records of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 9.--Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1937-46, annual 1947 and 1948

Group and State	Harvested acreage: Average 1937-46	Harvested acreage: 1947	Harvested acreage: 1948	Yield per acre: Average 1937-46	Yield per acre: 1947	Yield per acre: 1948	Production: Average 1937-46	Production: 1947	Production: 1948
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Central Atlantic 1/ ...	57	54	50	125	132	147	7,132	7,110	7,364
Lower Atlantic 2/	248	196	164	87	99	96	21,624	19,485	15,809
South Central 3/	393	319	276	84	84	87	33,153	26,914	24,133
North Central 4/	18	13	14	97	87	100	1,741	1,137	1,400
California	11	11	10	108	100	110	1,216	1,100	1,100
Total, United States	728	594	514	89	94	97	64,866	55,746	49,806

1/ New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia. 2/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. 3/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. 4/ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Table 10.--Sweetpotatoes: Unweighted average wholesale price per bushel for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1947 and 1948

Market and type	1947: Nov.	1947: Week ended Dec. 20	1948: Sept.	1948: Oct.	1948: Nov.	1948: Week ended Dec. 18
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
F. O. B. SHIPPING POINTS:						
New Orleans, Louisiana, Porto Rican	2.56	3.10	2.30	2.42	2.58	2.80
E. Shore, Virginia points, Golden	---	---	1.72	1.72	---	---
E. Shore, Maryland, Golden 1/	---	---	1.76	1.90	---	---
Terminal Markets:						
New York						
Golden, Maryland	2.71	3.00	2.23	2.26	2.60	2.50
Golden, Virginia	2.03	---	2.02	1.98	2.17	---
Golden, New Jersey	2.69	2.83	1.92	2.18	2.50	2.55
Jersey type, New Jersey	2.50	2.62	2.12	2.24	2.52	2.32
Porto Rican, Louisiana	3.18	---	3.38	3.58	4.12	---
Porto Rican, Maryland	2.18	2.66	---	2.79	2.85	3.00
Porto Rican, North Carolina and South Carolina	2.93	3.03	2.96	3.31	3.51	3.75
Porto Rican, Virginia	1.95	---	2.19	2.40	2.70	---
Average, all varieties	2.46	2.65	2.68	2.67	2.90	3.02
Chicago						
Jersey type, Illinois	3.05	2.78	---	3.00	3.24	3.12
Jersey type, New Jersey (red soil)	---	---	---	3.21	3.78	3.52
Nancy Hall, Illinois	2.76	2.47	2.75	2.51	2.79	3.09
Nancy Hall, Tennessee	2/2.44	---	2.59	2.30	3.00	3.00
Porto Rican, Louisiana	3.12	3.12	2.88	2.94	3.34	3.94
Porto Rican, Tennessee	2.76	---	2.67	2.71	3.30	3.42
Average, all varieties 3/	2.91	2.98	2.73	2.69	3.10	3.52

1/ Washed. 2/ Less than 10 quotations. 3/ Excluding New Jersey red soil stock. Compiled from records of the Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 11.- Beans, dry, edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1937-46, annual 1947 and 1948

Groups of States	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production 1/		
	Average: 1937-46	1947	1948	Average: 1937-46	1947	1948	Average: 1937-46	1947	1948
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Maine, N. Y., Mich. and Minn. 2/	680	599	683	870	764	979	5,889	4,574	6,689
Nebr., Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Wash., and North Dakota 3/	265	365	358	1,429	1,443	1,629	3,771	5,268	5,831
Colo., N. Mex., Ariz., Utah 4/	528	472	508	471	638	569	2,496	3,013	2,892
California 5/	359	323	368	1,267	1,351	1,473	4,560	4,363	5,421
Lima	161	149	145	1,358	1,406	1,603	2,187	2,095	2,324
Other	198	174	223	1,189	1,303	1,389	2,373	2,268	3,097
Total, United States	1,832	1,759	1,917	914	979	1,087	16,716	17,218	20,833

1/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned beans; includes beans for seed. 2/ Largely pea beans, but most important source also of Red Kidney, Yelloweye, and Cranberry. 3/ Largely Great Northern, but Idaho also is the most important source of Small Reds. 4/ Largely Pinto beans. 5/ Miscellaneous varieties, mostly Lima, Baby Lima, Blackeye, Small White, and Pink.

NOTE: The 1948 estimated production of 20,833,000 bags in the United States is the equivalent of 19,429,000 bags of cleaned beans. The estimated clean-out in the 1948 crop in the first group of States is 4 percent; in the second group of States about 8 percent; in the third group of States about 7 percent; in California about 9 percent, and in the United States as a whole about 7 percent.

Table 12.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1937-46, annual 1947 and 1948 1/

State	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production 2/		
	Average: 1937-46	1947	1948	Average: 1937-46	1947	1948	Average: 1937-46	1947	1948
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Wisconsin	5	1	---	933	1,050	---	45	10	---
Minnesota	4	7	3	918	600	900	38	42	27
North Dakota	13	18	4	1,140	1,080	1,200	152	194	48
Montana	32	23	9	1,173	1,060	1,250	372	244	112
Idaho	121	150	68	1,218	1,320	1,200	1,529	1,980	816
Wyoming	2	2	2	1,102	1,200	1,200	25	24	24
Colorado	19	21	20	846	900	1,000	159	189	200
Washington	198	247	150	1,323	1,350	1,300	2,712	3,334	1,950
Oregon	21	24	18	1,326	1,180	1,300	289	283	234
California	---	27	18	---	790	960	---	213	173
10 States	412	520	292	1,242	1,252	1,227	5,278	6,513	3,584

1/ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry. 2/ Bags of 100 pounds, uncleaned peas.

NOTE: The 1948 estimated production of 3,584,000 bags in the United States is the equivalent of 3,265,000 bags of cleaned peas. The estimated clean-out varies in the several States but averages about 9 percent for the United States as a whole.

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